Amendments to the Specification:

Because the specification for the parent application, and thus the present application, was filed prior to USPTO use of the paragraph numbering system of referencing, applicants have referenced the amended paragraphs using the paragraph numbers of the marked-up copy of the substitute specification submitted herewith.

Please amend paragraphs [0029] and [0030] as follows:

FIG. 3 is a ~~side plan view of a cage of the current invention showing the proximity of the diet delivery system and the cage coupling~~top plan view of a filter cap in accordance with the current invention;

FIG. 4 is a ~~top plan view of a filter cap in accordance with the current invention~~ side view of a cage of the current invention showing the proximity of the diet delivery system and the cage coupling;

Please amend paragraphs [0033] and [0034] as follows:

FIG. 7 is a ~~front plan~~ perspective view of a cage body of the current invention;

FIG. 8 is a ~~perspective~~ side view of a cage body of the current invention;

Please amend paragraphs [0037] and [0038] as follows:

FIG. 11 is a ~~side plan view of a diet delivery system of the invention~~ perspective view of a diet delivery system of the invention, including water bottle with sipper tube;

FIG. 12 is a ~~perspective view of a diet delivery system of the invention, including water bottle with sipper tube~~ side plan view of a diet delivery system of the invention ;

Please ADD the following new paragraphs in the Brief Description of the Drawings section AFTER paragraph [0061]:

FIG. 34 is a side view of a cage locking system for securing the cages of the current invention to a single-sided rack system of the animal isolation and caging system constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Please amend paragraphs [0094] and [0095] as follows:

FIG. 66 is a front view of a canopy capture channel constructed in accordance with the present invention; and

FIG. 67 is a perspective view of a canopy capture channel constructed in accordance with the present invention~~;~~ .

Please DELETE paragraph [0096] in the Brief Description of the Drawings section describing FIG. 68.

Please amend paragraph [0120] as follows:

~~Now referring to FIG's 68, to assemble filter~~ Filter cap 11, air filter 70 is placed against the top wall 31 of filter frame 20 of filter cap 11. Thereafter, filter retainer 15 is mounted atop filter frame 20. ~~Ribs 91, 98, 112, 114, 116 interlock such that rib 97 projects between ribs 112 and 114, while rib 98 projects between ribs 114 and 116 (not shown). Ribs 97, 98, 112, 114, 116 thus also serve to hold filter 70 securely in place against the top surface of top wall 31.~~ Top wall 31 of filter frame 20 is provided with perforations 34 which are preferably substantially coextensive and in alignment with perforations 23 in top wall 21 of filter retainer 15 when filter frame 15 is mounted atop filter frame 20. The mesh structure of top wall 31 serves to prevent air

filter 70 from sagging and holds air filter 70, while filter frame 20 holds filter 70 securely in place against the top surface of top wall 21. In the assembled filter cap 11, perforated top wall 21 overlies filter 70 to protect the filter 70 against damage during handling and prevent its movement or buckling, while filter 70 rests flush upon perforated top wall 31 of filter frame 20 which supports and protects air filter 70 in its mounted position. Additionally, touching the filter 70 with fingers may destroy the filter integrity, and therefore the perforated walls 21 or 31 respectively on either side of the filter 70 prevent contact with the filter by the technician during handling and also prevents contact with the filter by the animal. The lower region of filter cap 11 is further protected from animal damage by the use of chew shield 30. Chew shield 30 being attached to filter frame 20 through the use of a plurality of snap rivets 35 (not shown).

Please amend paragraph [0121] as follows:

Filter retainer 15 is held in place by means of small projections or detents 51 which are integrally molded on the outer surface of filter frame body 32. ~~As shown in FIG. 69, four~~ Four spaced detents 51 are molded on each long side filter frame body 32 of filter cap 11, and two spaced detents 51 are molded on each shorter filter frame body 32. Each of the detents 51 has a convex or arcuate free end~~, as shown in FIG. 71~~. Similarly, apertures or slots 52 are formed in filter frame body 32 of filter frame 20 which are positioned and dimensioned so as to snugly receive detents 51 when filter retainer 15 is mounted on filter cap 11. In an alternative embodiment, detents 51 could be formed on the inner surface of filter frame body 32 of filter

frame 20, while slots 52 would be formed in side walls 53 of filter cap 11. It is also possible to dimension filter retainer 15 to be held to filter frame 20 by a tension fit.

Please amend paragraph [0122] as follows.

Detents 51 are precisely molded on filter frame 20 and are spaced from the top surface of peripheral flange 88 by a distance slightly greater than the height of integral peripheral flange ~~89~~ 88 of the filter frame 20. After air filter 70 has been positioned against the bottom surface of top wall 21, filter retainer 15 is moved downwardly upon filter frame 20 toward the perforated top wall 21 thereof to permit detents 51 to engage slots 52. Filter frame body 32 of filter frame 20 flex outwardly ~~so that slots 52 snap past tabs 53~~ to the mounted position ~~shown in FIG. 68. In this mounted position, the top surface of lateral peripheral flange 89 is held beneath the bottom surface of detents 51 and is restrained thereby, with ribs 112, 114 and 116 on the upper surface of filter frame outer edge 33 engaging the lower surface of the edge portion of air filter 70 and pressing this filter portion against the lower surface of filter retainer top wall 21.~~ At the same time, the meshed structure of perforated top wall 31 of filter frame 20 engages the lower surface of air filter 70 and presses filter 70 firmly against the lower surface of top wall 21 of filter retainer 15. Air filter 70 is thus sandwiched between filter retainer 15 and the top surface of top wall 32 of filter frame 20, and may be retained in this mounted position by the engagement of detents 51 with filter retainer 15.